

REMARKS

The Applicant sincerely appreciates the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Office Action of March 17, 2005. In particular, the Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that Claims 13-25 and 38-80 are allowed, and that Claims 3, 6-12, 28, and 31-37 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

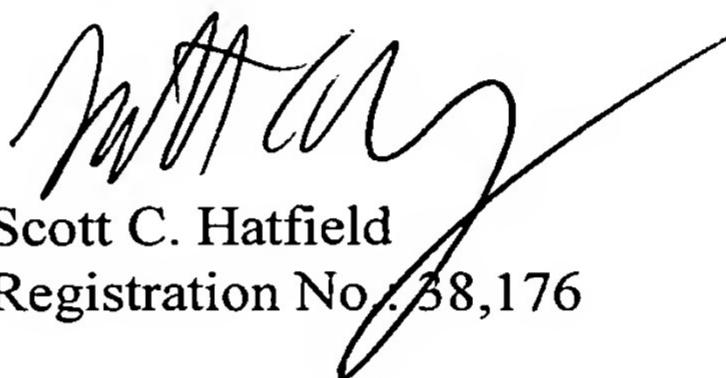
In response, the Applicant has: amended Independent Claim 1 to include recitations of Dependent Claim 6; amended Claim 6 to cancel portions thereof now included in Claim 1; amended Independent Claim 26 to include recitations of Dependent Claims 31; amended Dependent Claim 31 to cancel recitations thereof now included in Claim 26; and added new Dependent Claims 81 and 82. The Applicants have also: amended Dependent Claims 2, 6, 9, and 11 to provide consistency with respect to the amendment of Independent Claim 1; and amended Dependent Claims 27, 31, 34, and 36 to provide consistency with respect to the amendment of Independent Claim 26.

As noted in the Office Action: "The prior art did not show or suggest the limitation of the coupling voltage is greater than the decoupling voltage...." (Office Action, page 5.) As this recitation is now included in Independent Claims 1 and 26, the Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1 and 26 are patentable. Moreover, Dependent Claims 2-12 and 27-37 are patentable at least as per the patentability of Claims 1 and 26 from which they depend, and many of these dependent claims are also separately patentable. Dependent Claims 3, 6-12, 28, and 31-37, for example, are separately patentable as set forth on page 4 of the Office Action.

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All claims have thus been placed in a condition indicated allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone should any additional issues need to be addressed.

Respectfully submitted,


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Joyce Paoli
